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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Rathenow

EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 13 July 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 7 August 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

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1. According to the ration strength specified on the kitchen bulletin in the Infanterie Kaserne, Rathenow (N 53/2 15), the installation quartered 400 troops prior to 10 July 1951. In addition, the kitchen catered to about 200 recruits, only some of whom were quartered in the installation. The recruits were said to receive special training, in which troops from all three barracks installations in Rathenow participated. On 11 July, 100 recruits carrying baggage were seen arriving from the railroad station.

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2. According to the ration strength on the kitchen bulletin in the Pionier Kaserne, the troops there numbered 60 officers, including 8 administrative officers who were permanently stationed there; and 400 EM, including 150 recruits. [REDACTED] were seen returning from Altengrabow on 10 July, each was occupied by 20 artillerymen and towing a 105 mm artillery piece without muzzle brake.

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3. The kitchen bulletin in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne listed 800 troops, including officers and recruits. [REDACTED] each carrying 12 to 14 artillerymen and towing a 120-mm artillery piece, returned to the installation from Altengrabow at noon of 10 July.

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4. Infantry troops and 15 T-34 tanks practiced at Koenigsheide south of Rathenow from 1 to 8 July. A forestry official stated that the training site was situated between the localities of Pritzerbe (N 53/2 24), Seelendorf, Graeningen and Banne (N 53/2 15). A Liberman, who spoke Russian and Polish, was told by Soviet soldiers that the unit, which was in training, had come from Dallgow-Doberitz. **

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Comment. According to the last report by the same source, the total number of troops in all three barracks installations was 1,525 on 1 July 1951. [REDACTED] According to the present report it was 1,860 on 10 July 1951.

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Comment. Since this area was also used as a training site in the summer of 1950 it is possible that troops are practicing there again this year. The units concerned may have been those whose departure from Schoenhausen to the Fourth Gds Mecz Army area was observed between 5 and 11 July 1951. However, since none of the troop trains leaving Schoenhausen was definitely reported to have been bound for Doeheritz, the statement in the present report that elements of the 1st Mecz Div were in the training area cannot be evaluated.

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